

Message Text

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FROM USREP ICAO

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, ICAO, CA

SUBJ: ICAO - INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH DIALLO/SENEGAL RE DAKAR FIR

1. DIALLO AND US REP MET INFORMALLY DISCUSS SUMMER ACTIVITIES AND REVIEW CONTACTS (SEPTEL RE ASSEMBLY). TOWARD END DISCUSSION DIALLO SAID WHILE IN DAKAR HE HAD BEEN ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN MEETING WITH GOS MIN. TRANSPORT, DIR-GEN CIVIL AVIATION, AND REP FOREIGN AFFAIRS REGARDING GROWING SOUTH ATLANTIC TRAFFIC AND INADEQUACY DAKAR FIR. HIS SUGGESTION IN MEETING WAS TO TAKE LONG RANGE PLANNING VIEW AND CONSIDER TWO OR THREE OCEAN STATIONS. IN THE MEETING HE SAID SUCH AN APPROACH SHOULD BE MULTILATERAL PARTICULARLY AMONG SENEGAL, BRAZIL AND THE UNITED STATES (BORDERING FIR'S). HE SAID HE CAUTIONED THAT SUCH AN APPROACH WAS A MAJOR UNDERTAKING AND A VERY EXPENSIVE ONE, BUT IF SOME INTEREST WERE PRESENT AMONG STATES INVOLVED PERHAPS CONSIDERATION COULD BEGIN LOOKING TO FIVE YEARS FROM NOW WHEN DAKAR COULD NO LONGER CONTROL THE SOUTH PACIFIC TRAFFIC.

2. US REP ASKED IF DIALLO HAD ANY OBJECTION TO REPORTING THIS INTERNAL GOS DISCUSSION TO USG. HE SAID "NOT AT ALL AND MAYBE WE COULD GET SOME TALKS GOING."

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3. US REP MENTIONED DIALLO COMPLAINT OF LAST YEAR THAT ROBERTS-

FIELD FIR AND PANAM WERE CREATING PROBLEMS FOR DAKAR FIR. HE SHRUGGED THIS OFF SAYING "NO PROBLEM" -- THAT FREETOWN AND ROBERTSFIELD FIR'S WERE "SUB-REGIONS" WITHIN DAKAR FIR AND HE WAS CONCERNED WITH THE GREATER PROBLEM FACING ALL OF THEM IN A FEW YEARS.

4. ALTHOUGH DIALLO FACETIOUSLY MENTIONED US AND BRAZIL AS "HAVING MONEY" RE OSV'S, HE IMPLIED HE WAS THINKING IN TERMS OF MULTI-LATERAL ARRANGEMENT EVEN A NAOS APPROACH. AT ONE POINT HE MENTIONED "ALL WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES ALONG ROUTE ATR-38". HE MENTIONED THE VESSEL PARTICIPATING IN WMO RESEARCH RE SAHEL DROUGHT AS BEING VERY IMPRESSIVE. (HE DID NOT MENTION AEROSAT OR OTHER ALTERNATIVES.)

5. DIALLO SAID NEW DIR-GEN ASECNA (GABON) ALREADY IN MONTREAL FOR ASSEMBLY. SUGGESTED VERY PRELIMINARY INFORMAL TALKS WITH HIM. FYI. BUTTERFIELD-CAREY MAY WANT TO DISCUSS DAKAR FIR PROBLEMS INFORMALLY DURING ASSEMBLY PERIOD AS TECHNICAL PROBLEM. END FYI.

HARPER

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